



Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 004900-148

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
Evelyne PRAT et al.) Group Art Unit: 1754
Application No.: 08/765,901) Examiner: S. Hendrickson
Filed: January 7, 1997)
For: CONCENTRATED SUSPENSION)
PRECIPITATION SILICA, METHODS)
OF PREPARATION AND)
UTILISATION OF SAID SUSPENSION)

#D816
VP
9/18/01

RECEIVED
SEP 14 2001
TC 1700

REPLY AND AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Official Action issued May 11, 2001, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 22 and 31 as follows:

22. (twice amended) An aqueous suspension consisting essentially of precipitated silica, having a solids content between 10 and 40% by weight, a viscosity lower than 4×10^{-2} Pa.s at a shear rate of 50 s^{-1} and wherein the amount of silica present in the supernatant obtained after centrifuging said suspension at 7500 revolutions per minute for 30 minutes represents more than 50 % of the weight of the silica present in the suspension.

(6)

Sub #1